

Scott Bradley

From: phollay1@netzero.net
Sent: Saturday, January 09, 2010 9:34 AM
To: info@mainlinehs.com
Subject: Fw: Outdoor Wood Furnaces

Hello-

I live in Tolland and I have a permitted wood boiler that was approved before the ban here in town. I am very worried about the proposed ban on wood boilers. We actually have a Wood Doctor brand wood boiler. I am also a mother of 2 young girls (neither of whom have asthma or any other respiratory problem), a former environmental scientist with a BS in Natural Resource Management and Engineering from UCONN. I am certified in my field and presently left environmental consulting to focus on taking care of my family.

I was hoping that you would be able to let me know when important dates or votes are coming up so that I can help oppose the ban. I actually spoke with Scott Bradley about my boiler a few years back when I was having a little difficulty with the town and my neighbor. We have not had any problems since we moved our boiler to the back of our house.

I don't want to form any committee or be on any special payroll, I just love my wood boiler and I don't want to be told I can't use it.

Anyhow I am guessing that you are more aware of important meetings etc. and may be able to pass on important dates to me. I am honestly just too busy raising my family to focus on this every day but I do feel it is important. I have forwarded an e-mail that I recently sent to Nancy Alderman and I have also sent similar e-mail to Richard Blumenthal.

Thanks you!

Patirica Hollay

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "phollay1@netzero.net" <phollay1@netzero.net>
To: info@ehhi.org
Cc: attorney.general@po.state.ct.us
Subject: Outdoor Wood Furnaces
Date: Sat, 9 Jan 2010 13:21:41 GMT

Dear Nancy-

I hope you saw my comment to your letter in the Middletown Press. If not I attached it to the end of this letter. I am curious what exactly is Environment and Human Health Inc. (EHHI)? Do you have an actual office? I understand it is a non-profit.. who are you largest donors? What exactly are your credentials? I see you have quoted a lot of educated individuals on your website how exactly do you get these individuals to make make these statements or do you copy them out of work they are doing? Who is on the payroll, is it just you? Are you trying to improve public health or are you just trying to stay employed during these tough economic times? Whatever your motivation I think you are very misled or

extremely close minded and near sighted. Human beings have evolved burning wood. Please read my comment to your letter in the Middletown Press. Also spend some time learning about the subject of burning wood verses fossil fuels. Think about the cost to extract fossil fuels from the earth. Think about the true cost to human health and the environment from using fossil fuels... not just about what you see in North Haven.

The following is my response your letter in the Middletown Press. Thank you for taking the time to answer my questions.

"I am appalled by your lack of understanding regarding the use of outdoor wood furnaces. I am also stunned by your bigotry toward outdoor wood furnace operators. Do you think that someone would purchase a \$10,000.00 appliance and then burn garbage, tires and waste???? Would you burn tires in your fireplace?

I think that you along with all the others that have jumped on this "ban" wagon need to take the time to educate yourselves. It is so very easy to look at some misleading "facts" and jump to inaccurate conclusions, especially when you have been spoon fed them by special interest groups. Take a closer look....your fossil fuels are costing us human lives overseas but as long as it's not in your backyard right?

How about the additional toxins present in fossil fuels that are not present in wood?

How about the fact the wood is an abundant natural resource?

Get the facts about wood smoke and what it is composed of and how it behaves in the atmosphere, learn about catalytic converters, spend some time before you make a statement such as "...never be made safe".

I hope the few people who have used their wood furnaces improperly will not "fuel the fire" of close minded special interest groups and individuals such as you and Richard Blumenthal and cause a ban on these appliances.

By the way I am an educated former professional environmental scientist, presently a stay at home mother and a proud owner of an outdoor wood furnace."

Sincerely,

Patricia Hollay

Diet Help

Cheap Diet Help Tips. Click here.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

MY FAMILY HAS BURNED WOOD FOR HEATING PURPOSES FOR GENERATIONS. YOU MIGHT EVEN CALL IT A FAMILY TRADITION. BEING A RETIRED PROFESSIONAL, AND GETTING OLDER, I PURCHASED AN OUTDOOR FURNACE AND ABSOLUTELY LOVE IT. I HAVE BEEN USING AN INDOOR WOODSTOVE FOR OVER 20 YEARS, AND I SWEAR THAT THE OUTDOOR FURNACES ARE MORE FUEL EFFICIENT AND ACTUALLY EMITS LESS SMOKE THAN THE INSIDE WOODSTOVE. NOT TO MENTION THE HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES THAT COME INTO PLAY, (THE DANGERS OF CLIMBING ONTO THE ROOF, POSSIBILITY OF LOOSING YOUR HOME DUE TO A CHIMNEY FIRE) TO NAME A FEW. ALSO, THE THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS YOU SAVE ON FUEL OIL COULD FEED A NEEDY FAMILY FOR A YEAR. I ALSO HATE THE FEELING OF BEING "AT THE MERCY" OF THE BIG OIL CORPORATIONS WITH THEIR LEAKS, SPILLS AND DISASTERS WHICH WILL DRIVE THE OIL PRICES TO UNAFFORDABLE LEVELS.

APPARENTLY, SOME GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS HAVE GIVEN THESE UNITS A BAD NAME AND IMAGE, AND TOO MANY CLUELESS "DO-GOODERS" ARE JUMPING ON THE BANDWAGON WITHOUT HAVING THE FACTS.

AS AMERICANS, WE HAVE BEEN LIVING OFF THE LAND FOR CENTURIES, AND NOW YOUR TRYING TO TELL US THAT WE CAN'T?

IF YOU DISCOVER ANY WRONGDOING, YOU SHOULD PENALIZE THOSE PEOPLE, NOT THE ENTIRE POPULATION.

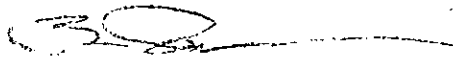
Tom Zeng

OVERLY CONCERNED
HOMEOWNER

Environment Committee
February 8, 2011
Page 2

I am a former selectman of the Town of Stafford and a former chairman of the local Conservation Commission. I am a charter member of a number of environmental groups. There are profound environmental challenges facing us. Wood smoke is not one of them. I urge you to vote no on this bill.

Respectfully,



Brian W. Prucker, Esq.
Stoughton Brook Farm
510 Buckley Highway
Union, CT 06076

Testimony of Thomas J. Darcy on Raised Bill No. 830

Members of the Environment Committee, my name is Thomas J. Darcy and I live in Hadlyme, Ct. In the winter of 2005-2006 my wife and I decided we needed to do something about our escalating heating bill. We were paying upwards of \$4,000 for fuel oil to heat and supply hot water to our home. With a modest 1,500 sq. ft. home and fuel prices for domestic oil only going up, we had to do something and soon. With a daughter soon to enter college, and our son behind her, our wages not keeping up with inflation and increased expenses. We had to consider different ways to get by.

That summer I had heard of an Outdoor Wood Burning Furnace. I did my homework and researched it. I had looked at 3 or 4 different kinds and decided on a Central Boiler Model 5036 (one of their smaller units but it fit my needs). Before buying I talked to all my neighbors in a ½ mile radius and told them I was considering buying and installing it. Everybody, and I mean everybody, thought it was a great idea. Most of them either have woodstoves (my nearest neighbor heats his home with two indoor wood stoves) or fireplaces. After crunching the numbers (fuel oil prices were only going up) we decided to buy. We did the installation ourselves to save money and we were on our way.

We have been using the furnace for 5(five) years now with great results. I have had zero, none, not even a whisper of a complaint about smoke from my neighbors. I burn nothing but seasoned (1 year minimum) hardwood that I harvest (locally) cut, spilt and stack. It's a lot of work for us to be prepared for the heating season (September-May), but well worth it. It is a family endeavor. Even my 13-year-old son understands the ramifications of not depending on foreign oil to heat our home. In fact, one of his school projects was to do a report on alternative renewable fuel sources. I think you could guess what his "A" paper was about.

Lately there has been a lot of misinformation about these furnaces in the press. Fact: My carbon footprint is much less now. Why? I am using a renewable energy source that I harvest locally. Fact: My dependence on foreign terrorist funding oil is near nil. Why? See answer to last question. Fact: Humans have been using wood to heat their homes since the discovery of fire!

If this legislation is passes my family will suffer extreme financial hardship. You tell your kid; sorry the legislature said we can't burn wood and have to pay for oil again so you can't go back to college this year. How can I be held responsible for some folks who are either ignorant or just don't care about how to properly operate their wood furnace? There are laws already on the books to take care of this problem (air pollution and nuisance laws). Where will it stop? No fires in fireplaces? No woodstoves? No campfires? No barbeques? Enough!

Don't let the few people who do not understand about how to handle a local nuisance dictate to the rest of us how to live.

Thomas J. Darcy
Hadlyme, Ct.

February 8, 2011

VIA E-MAIL

Environment Committee
State of Connecticut
General Assembly
Room 3200, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: **RAISED BILL NO. 830; LCO NO. 2525
AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF
CERTAIN OUTDOOR WOOD-BURNING FURNACES**

Honorable Legislators of the Environment Committee:

I write you to urge your opposition to the bill to ban outdoor wood-burning furnaces. The bill is flawed and misguided. An immediate equal protection question is raised when the bill purports to establish an exception for agricultural "or farming purposes or to heat the home of such farmer."

Pursuant to Article XIV of the United States Constitution and Section One of the Constitution of the State of Connecticut, *et. seq.*, no state shall deprive any person of property without "equal protection of the laws."

Many homeowners, in a good faith manner, and in compliance with existing state and town regulations, purchase outside wood boilers. The boilers were a vast improvement over the inside wood furnaces, fireplace inserts and stoves of our youth. The boilers were safer, cleaner and more efficient than the alternatives "in the home" which would not be banned under this bill.

Many homeowners in Connecticut, not just farmers, had access to wood lots and were able to utilize self reliance, economy and their own hard labor to lower the cost of heating their houses and to keep their families warm in this rugged climate and its New England winters.

It is particularly galling that a blanket revision of the self heating movement is sought during this terrible winter, when many people are struggling with the economy and to stay warmer. The Legislature should be looking to expand the program where feasible, not ban it. In Union, the town highway crews have been known to cut wood and the Boy Scouts deliver and stack the cords for the elderly. That makes a whole lot of sense.

Scott Bradley

From: Melissa Morrarty [morrarty1@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 12, 2011 4:51 PM
To: info@mainlinehs.com
Subject: outdoor wood furnace

Scott, Sorry it took me so long to send this email. Just wanted to have my opinion noted on the ongoing controversy. Being a state employee of 24 years and being forced to take furlough days according to our contracts, along with other reductions in our income, I depend on my outdoor wood furnace to heat my 1763 farmhouse. My wife and I purchased our house from my parents several years ago and this house has always been heated with wood, (since 1763 I presume) previously with a wood furnace in the cellar which produced considerably more smoke than the outdoor wood furnace ever does. We would use 300 gallons of oil per month in the winter to heat this old uninsulated house! I believe most people are just uninformed about outdoor wood furnaces, they are unfamiliar therefore generating controversy. As I travel the roads of eastern CT, I see many more homes being heated with wood stoves and most of those chimneys produce much more smoke than my furnace does, you just can't see the stove because it is inside rather than out. Tim Morrarty Pomfret Center, Ct

June 18, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:
Regarding Recent Controversy
About Outdoor Wood Boilers

I have been a wood burner since mid 1970's when the oil crisis affected the country. I just finished my first winter using an OWB. I was pleasantly surprised by the ease of operation as well as lack of smoke issues. I live on a busy road (Rt. 164) and had many neighbors ask me why I wasn't using my outdoor wood boiler. I was, but in general, smoke was seldom evident from my own use. It seems proper management can alleviate, if not eliminate most concerns. Proper seasoning of wood, appropriate chimney heights, location of stove, etc. can make an OWB as clean burning as any wood stove.

To me other reasons for purchasing an OWB to begin with are also relevant. It is a large investment with no guarantee of a good return on that investment. However, I feel that it is a small step in reducing dependence on foreign oil, with all of those ramifications. Recent events in the Gulf of Mexico proves that domestic oil production has some concerns as well. The point being that, yes OWB's have some concerns but an outright ban has no basis in common sense in relation to those problems.

In conclusion I would just like to remind that wood is a homegrown renewable resource and that we should not be too hasty to diminish its value, but allow the industry to continue to improve efficiency as they have been doing.

Sincerely,
Robert Prue
Preston, CT

P.S. I am also an agricultural producer and have used the OWB in heating a greenhouse. The labor and cost saved has been tremendous.

Feb. 8/11

Topic:
(Bill NO. 830), which will Take away my Right
To use my OWE that I Lawfully purchased,
Lawfully installed and Lawfully use.

It's very Sad To Think For a Few
People, "IRResponsible People". That mySelf
and many others, will Be Punished
Because of Them.

This Bill #830, if Passed, would Create
a definate hardship on me and my Family
It's Cleaner Than oil or Natural Gas. By Far
Safer Than oil or Gas.

Go after The people That are NOT
being Considerate of There Neighbors.
Burn everything That They Know they
Shouldn't,

"Punish Them!" NOT the people
That are Considerate and are Totely
Legal

"I STRongly OPPOSE This Bill!"

George R. Pilkington
22 Talmadge Hill Road
Prospect Ct. 06712

Scott Bradley

From: David Flagge [dflagge@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2011 7:27 PM
To: scott@mainlinehs.com
Subject: OWF

Scott,

I am sending you this email to show my support for my outdoor wood burning furnace. My story begins many years ago. I am a landscaping contractor. I have been clearing land , side yards, etc. for many years. For many years I simply dumped the wood and brush in our overfilled landfills. At the same time, I watched our heating oil prices go up and up and our resources go down. I went on the internet and did some research and found the wood burning furnace. I feel that by recycling the wood and supplying heat for my home, it's a win-win for everyone. In my research, I also found that wood burning is much cleaner than burning fossil fuel.

I consider myself to be a very responsible furnace owner. I only burn wood that is being harvested from land clearing projects. I never burn any trash or contaminants that are harmful to the environment. My neighbors also favor my choice of heating systems. There has never been a problem with my "OWF" as far as they are concerned.

Feel free to contact me for any further discussion on this matter.

Sincerely,
David K. Flagge

June 18, 2010

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Regarding Recent Controversy
About Outdoor Wood Boilers

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In conclusion I would just like to remind that wood is a homegrown renewable resource and that we should not be too hasty to diminish its value, but allow the industry to continue to improve efficiency as they have been doing.

Sincerely,
Robert Prue
Preston, CT

P.S. I am also an agricultural producer and have used the OWB in heating a greenhouse. The labor and cost saved has been tremendous.

Dear Legislator Bryan Aulbert:

I am a Connecticut citizen who has chosen to heat my home with an outdoor wood-burning furnace (OWF). Below are many of the good reasons for my own investment in this type of furnace.

- With the price of home heating oil, natural gas and LPG increasing every year, heating with wood is an economical option—those who supply their own wood can save thousands of dollars a year on home, farm and small business heating costs.
- Heating with wood is consistent with the independent practices of Americans from as far back as colonial times. Wood—a renewable resource which is plentiful in Connecticut — expresses our collective desire to become independent from foreign imported oil.
- Heating with an outdoor wood-burning furnace eliminates the risks of fires and carbon monoxide poisoning from using an indoor heating system. Every year hundreds of lives are lost to fires and carbon monoxide poisoning from all types of indoor heating devices. Every year thousands of homes are damaged or destroyed by fires caused by indoor heating devices. Because an outdoor wood-burning furnace is located outside the home, these very real risks are eliminated.
- Heating with wood results in no net increase in global warming gas emissions, while heating with oil and natural gas is a significant source of global warming gas.

The State of Connecticut already regulates OWFs installed prior to and installed after July 8, 2005 in accordance with Public Act 05-227. The Act includes setbacks, chimney height and proper fuel use requirements, along with establishing requirements for “nuisance” OWF use. Central Boiler, Inc., a US manufacturer of OWFs, worked with legislators on this original Act and moreover, in the last 3 legislative sessions has supported legislative efforts to add additional restrictions based upon the US EPA Phase 2 Hydronic Heater Program. This is entirely reasonable and appropriate under the circumstances.

Suddenly and instead of merely including additional restrictions, I have been informed that under a proposed 2011 Connecticut **Bill No. 830**, I will lose all my rights to use my furnace. Apparently the bill is being considered because there are possibly a handful of OWF owners who may have improperly sited and are improperly using their furnaces in violation of current law. Also, I understand that anti-wood burning groups are supporting this bill by making broad false assertions about OWFs, exaggerating numbers of complaints regarding OWFs, and using unscientific studies to support their claims.

I STRONGLY URGE YOU TO OPPOSE BILL NO. 830, which will take away my right to use my OWF that I lawfully purchased, lawfully installed and lawfully use.

Please let me know what efforts you will be taking to protect my rights from being taken by away by this proposed law.

Sincerely,

Richard E. Bergman

262 BAKER ST

Tolland CT. 06084

Jamie Zaushny, Coventry Connecticut
Raised Bill number 830 Lco No.2525

An act prohibiting the use of certain outdoor wood Burning Furnaces.

Mr/Mrs chairperson and members of the committee

I am here today to oppose the bill #830 Prohibiting Outdoor Wood burning furnaces.

I feel there are many other options, other than banning the boilers.

Did you know that in the last 25 years appliances for burning wood have improved dramatically? As recently as 1987, we would weld a steel box together and burn wood;

Things have come a long way since then. Re-burn tubes down draft technologies, and catalytic converters for wood furnaces have already improved emissions ratings dramatically from where we were 25 years ago.

5 years ago Central Boiler (a major outdoor boiler manufacturer) created the E-Classic. This boiler has a 92% efficiency rating from the EPA. The e-classic can heat the average size home using 3-5 cords of seasoned hardwood per year (hardwood is a renewable resource).

Now there is a bill to prohibit outdoor boilers. How can we move forward with clean air technology when people want us to stop?

The Environmental Protection Agency is in the process of eliminating the older stoves first by only allowing the Phase Two stoves which meet with their compliances.

Also, they are giving a tax credit to citizens who purchase one of these EPA Compliant models also known as Phase Two.

If this bill is passed, then how can we move forward, and improve the technology?

In closing I would like to ask you not to support bill #830, and vote against it.

Thank you for your time,
Jamie Zaushny

Dear Senator

GREEN PAILY D33

I am a Connecticut citizen who has chosen to heat my home with an outdoor wood-burning furnace (OWF). Below are many of the good reasons for my own investment in this type of furnace.

- With the price of home heating oil, natural gas and LPG increasing every year, heating with wood is an economical option—those who supply their own wood can save thousands of dollars a year on home, farm and small business heating costs.
- Heating with wood is consistent with the independent practices of Americans from as far back as colonial times. Wood—a renewable resource which is plentiful in Connecticut — expresses our collective desire to become independent from foreign imported oil.
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Please let me know what efforts you will be taking to protect my rights from being taken away by this proposed law.

Sincerely,

Edward Veseloh
109 Schulman Veseloh Rd
EAST HADDAM, CONN 06423

CL would like to tell you
ALL wood fire are the same,
Just the appliance that is used
to burn the wood from camp
fires to fire places is all the
same. Except for a few which
burn trash! in a fire

People bring me pine trees which would end up in landfills

Dear Legislator LINDA ORANGE, 343

06-08-2011 07:46 AM

I am a Connecticut citizen who has chosen to heat my home with an outdoor wood-burning furnace (OWF). Below are many of the good reasons for my own investment in this type of furnace.

- With the price of home heating oil, natural gas and LPG increasing every year, heating with wood is an economical option—those who supply their own wood can save thousands of dollars a year on home, farm and small business heating costs.
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Please let me know what efforts you will be taking to protect my rights from being taken away by this proposed law.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Veseloh
109 Schulman-Veseloh Rd
EAST HADDAM CT 06423

I would like to tell you ANY wood
Fire is the same just the
APPLANCE That is use to BURN
The wood from camp fire to
wood stove. Fire place is all
The same. Except for a few
THAT BURN TRASH in a fire
THAT would end up in land fill

People Bring me pine tree THAT

06-08-2011 07:46 AM

Testimony of William Darcy on Raised Bill No. 830

Members of the Environment Committee, my name is William R. Darcy and I live in Ashford, CT. I testified last year on a similar bill that would eliminate valuable energy saving options for Connecticut businesses and families, S.B. 126. My 2010 testimony, appendix and pictures are equally relevant this year and are incorporated into this testimony and attached hereto.

The principles that should guide the Environment Committee and General Assembly in considering Raised Bill No. 830 were enunciated by Governor Dannel Malloy on January 23, 2011 in the *Hartford Courant*:

We will make Connecticut more employer-friendly by lowering the cost of doing business with *cheaper energy, rational regulation* and turning state government into *a partner the business community can rely on* — instead of the impediment it's too often been.

That important statement by Governor Malloy has three critical elements that businesses and individuals need to help revitalize Connecticut and increase tax revenues: 1) cheaper energy, 2) rational regulation and 3) a state partner to rely on.

1. "[M]ake Connecticut more employer-friendly by lowering the cost of doing business with cheaper energy"

Connecticut has very high energy costs compared to other states. Those high energy costs reduce economic growth and the taxable income of businesses and individuals. Connecticut citizens need the full range of options available in other states to reduce their energy costs. Wood burning boilers and stoves are a vital element in this energy mix that significantly reduce the costs to businesses and individuals. In my case, by reducing fuel and electricity costs to my home and business (my commercially zoned building is used half for business and half for residence) by over \$4,500 a year my taxable income has increased as a result of my wood burning boiler. Enacting SB 830 would:

- A. Make my business less competitive;
- B. Increase my family's heating and hot water bills; and
- C. Reduce my taxable income.

By increasing business costs and reducing taxable income, SB 830 would have a definite fiscal impact on Connecticut when Connecticut can ill afford the loss of tax revenues or the competitiveness of its businesses. This factor alone argues strongly against the enactment of SB 830.

2. Connecticut needs "rational regulation."

When Connecticut and the federal government have sought to reduce the impact of air pollution sources in the past the "rational regulation" of those sources has been done by requiring *new* sources to meet higher standards (e.g. best available technology and new source performance

standards). That has been true for wood stoves, for automobiles and for stationary emission sources such as power plants. In the case of wood burning boilers "rational regulation" would mean prohibiting the sales and installation in the future of boilers that do not meet the recently developed federal EPA standards. The prohibition of the *use* of wood fired boilers, including boilers that meet the highest EPA standards, is the antithesis of rational regulation.

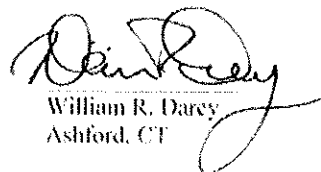
3. Connecticut needs a state government "the business community can *rely* on-- instead of the impediment it's too often been."

Many Connecticut businesses and families *relying* on existing laws and regulations have invested large amounts of money in new wood fired boiler heating and hot water systems to reduce their fuel and electricity costs. Both the capital investments and reasonable expectations of energy savings in the future would be torn asunder by the destructive mandate of SB 830. This is precisely the kind of regulation that Governor Malloy spoke of as being an impediment to businesses thriving in Connecticut. No one's capital investments are safe in a state that practices *ex post facto* laws confiscating the economic value of investments like SB 830. Businesses get the message from such legislation and leave the state or don't invest any more in such an unreliable jurisdiction.

The Proposed Legislation Is Not Needed To Address Smoke Nuisances

The push behind this bill seems to come from the small number of individuals who face legitimate health concerns from poorly operated, inefficient wood boilers that produce excessive emissions. I attended the entire hearing last year on SB 126 seeking to ban the use of wood boilers and some of the strongest supporters of the bill stopped the nuisances they personally faced by bringing lawsuits against their neighbors. The fact is that *existing laws and long standing case law provide remedies for nuisance smoke and pollution*. I cited a variety of judicial decisions on that topic in my oral and written testimony last year. To address these smoke problems it is NOT necessary to inflict serious harm on the thousands of families and businesses who operate their wood boilers responsibly, many with boilers meeting high EPA standards. SB 830 is not needed and would significantly harm Connecticut families and businesses and reduce state tax revenues.

Respectfully submitted.


William R. Darcy
Ashford, CT

APPENDIX A

Wood Burning Helps Connecticut, S.B. 126 Harms Connecticut

Wood Burning Saves Residents Significant Money on their Heating and Hot Water Costs:

My annual costs (not counting sweat equity in cutting, splitting and stacking wood) has gone down from \$6,000 to \$1,500 per year.

Wood Burning Saves Businesses Money: Overhead costs for business are very high in Connecticut. Many small businesses depend on wood burning to keep high overhead costs down. This bill will significantly increase the costs of my business.

Wood Burning Stimulates Local Business: The fuel for wood burners comes from local forestry companies (in my case two companies in Pomfret) and local equipment dealers such as Mainline Heating in Ashford (the units are too big for mail order). Those businesses will be greatly harmed by S.B. 126.

Wood Burning Enables Freedom from Foreign Energy Sources: Energy independence has been a national goal for four decades and wood burning does something meaningful to reduce our national reliance on foreign sources of energy.

Wood Burning is in the Interests of National Security: Foreign oil purchases fund terrorist regimes (e.g., Iran) and rogue countries (e.g., Venezuela) and further centralizes power in those regimes because they own their nation's oil resources.

S.B. 126 is Contrary to Federal Policy: The Stimulus Bill signed by Obama last February gave a 30 percent tax credit (up to \$1,500) for the purchase of a 75 percent efficient wood/biomass-burning stove. S.B. 126 would limit or prohibit the use of units specifically approved by the EPA and subsidized by federal legislation. <http://www.epa.gov/burnwise/owhhlist.html>

Modern Hydroponic Heaters Are More Efficient and Less of a Health Problem than Old Wood Furnaces and Boilers, Wood Stoves, and Fireplaces.

There are Existing Remedies for Wood Combustion Abuses: Combustion abuses sometimes occur but they can be remedied with existing law (common law nuisance lawsuits, DEP air pollution enforcement; health statutes, etc.) without harming responsible users. See, e.g. the Connecticut Supreme Court decision in *Pestey v. Cushman*, 259 Conn. 345 (2002) concerning private nuisance suits and the April 23, 2009 Department of Health EHS Circular Letter # 2009-32 advising local officials on the use of existing health statutes to remedy outdoor smoke nuisances.

Municipalities Should Make Any Wood Burning Prohibition Decisions, Not Hartford legislators or bureaucrats. Any health problems created by these small emission sources are local and municipalities are best able to make the trade-offs between the financial and health interests of their residents.

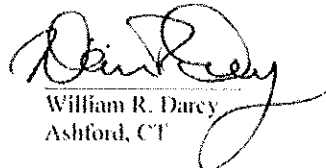
Testimony of William Darcy on S.B. 126

Members of the Environment Committee, my name is William R. Darcy and I live in Ashford, CT. In 2009 I responded to the call of President Obama and Congress for national energy efficiency and independence from foreign oil by purchasing an EPA approved hydroponic heater, a Central Boiler E-Classic 2300, to provide heat and hot water to my home and business. The Stimulus Bill made this energy efficient unit eligible for a \$1,500 tax credit. I purchased, permitted and installed this system because of the federal incentives, the significant annual fuel cost savings and to stop subsidizing rogue and terrorist states with my oil purchases. My annual heating and hot water bills will be reduced from \$6,000 a year to about \$1,500 (not including my labor).

Contrary to the claims of some advocates for S.B. 126 who say wood boilers billow large quantities of smoke 24 hours a day, **most of the day my unit does not emit any smoke.** I have attached as Appendix B pictures of the stack emissions from my boiler I took last Friday, March 5, 2010, in its normal smokeless state, abnormal state, and active burn state. The unit replaces (or will replace) three other hydrocarbon emission sources (two furnaces and a wood stove). The stack is close to my house which is downwind from the stack. I have allergies and I am a cancer survivor (thyroid), but the emissions have not been offensive in sight or smell, nor do I believe it endangers my health. I have received no complaints from neighbors.

I strongly oppose S.B. 126 and other efforts that will limit the use of my hydroponic heater and thus dramatically increase my costs of living and business costs. Appendix A lists specific reasons why wood burning is good for Connecticut and S.B. 126 is very bad for Connecticut. Connecticut residents and businesses struggle with high costs of living every day and we do not need more government actions that dramatically increase our living and business costs. Wood burning for heat and hot water in America is older than the nation and the use of wood fueled hydroponic heaters is consistent with that tradition. Wood is a locally grown and harvested renewable source of fuel whose use should be encouraged rather than discouraged. The use of wood to heat homes and businesses in Eastern Connecticut is quite extensive and the curtailment of its use by S.B. 126 would be a major blow to the region. S.B. 126 will create a large incentive to political action by individuals and businesses to stop or reverse the harmful economic impact.

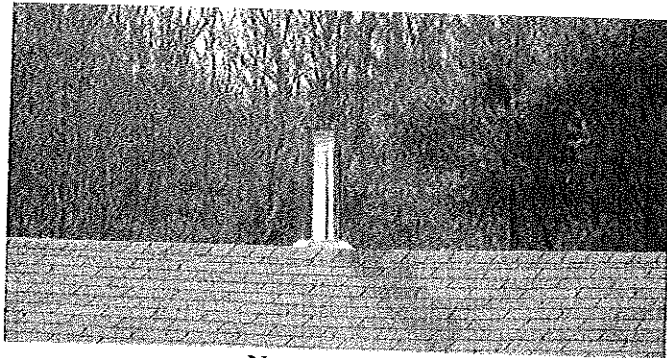
Wood burning for heat and hot water is good for Connecticut and good for this nation. Abuses of this energy source can be remedied by existing means without using the excessive and blunt instrument of discriminatory bans and increased government power. There are existing remedies for unreasonable infringements on the use and enjoyment of property. Individuals have always been empowered by the common law to bring private nuisance suits, the Health Department currently has powers to abate nuisances and DEP has air pollution enforcement powers. Those existing powers should be used to address localized combustion abuses rather than passing new legislation which will significantly harm Connecticut residents and businesses.



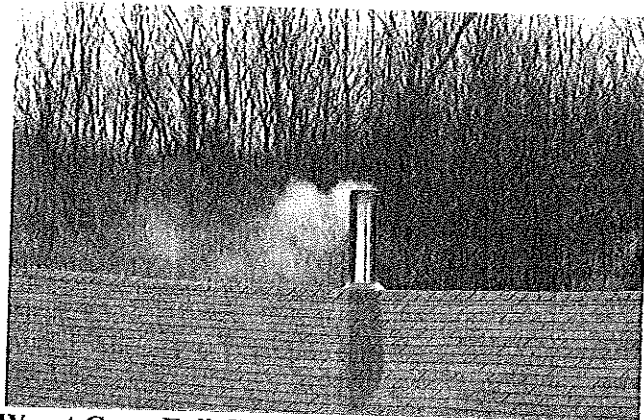
William R. Darcy
Ashford, CT

Darcy Ashford E-Classic 2300

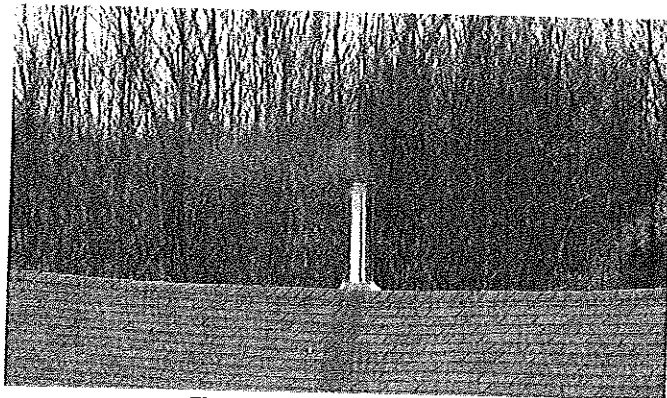
The pictures below taken on March 5, 2010 show my hydroponic boiler stack in its three phases. The normal state, which it is in a majority of time, is smokeless. The second picture shows the worst case during active combustion after it is loaded with wood (twice a day). The bottom picture is 15 minutes later, when it is still in full combustion state but not agitated by the wood loading. Even during active combustion many times there is no smoke visible.



Normal State



Worst Case: Full Combustion after Wood Loading



Full Combustion State

February 5, 2011

Environmental Committee
Mr. Tony Guglielmo, 35th District

We live in the rural town of Pomfret, CT and in 2002 purchased a Central Boiler outdoor combination wood and oil furnace. As stated in the brochure "Heating with wood is endorsed by the U.S. Forestry Service and the Union of Concerned Scientists. We have closely followed the news articles regarding the use and concerns of the wood-burning furnaces. Understandingly we are very upset and concerned with the proposed Bill No. 830 which seeks to ban the use of these furnaces.

- 1) Burning wood is a renewal energy source and keeps our Connecticut dollars in Connecticut employing and affecting a wide range of occupations.
- 2) Moving the furnace out of our home removed the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning of our family. As parents and grandparents, safety of your children is priority one. Every year hundreds of lives are lost to fires and carbon monoxide poisoning from all types of indoor heating devices. Annually thousands of homes are damaged or destroyed by fires caused by indoor heating devices. We personally have seen creosote dripping down chimneys creating extremely dangerous conditions and annually may fire departments respond to chimney/house fires.
- 3) Heating with wood results in no net increase in global warming gas emissions, while heating with oil and natural gas is a significant source of global warming gas.

The State already has regulates in place. The Act includes setbacks, chimney heights and proper fuel use requirements, along with establishing requirements for "nuisance" furnace use. If a user is not in compliance, then the town officials should be held accountable to address the problem.

We do agree that there are some locations within the state that outdoor furnaces are not appropriate.

Suddenly and instead of merely including additional restrictions, or enforcing the existing laws, we have been informed that under the proposed Bill No. 830, we will lose all my rights to use the furnace. From what we have read in the newspaper, this bill is being considered because there are a handful of furnace owners who may have improperly sited or are in violation of the current laws. Also, we understand that anti-wood burning groups are supporting this bill by making broad false assertions about these furnaces.

To single out one type of wood fired heating device is discrimination. Wood smoke from an outdoor furnace, indoor furnace, stove or campfire is wood smoke. An oil fired furnace which is not annually cleaned and properly maintained emits a lot of hazardous fumes into the air.

Our furnace is inside a woodshed and the wood burned is two years old, seasoned and dry. To burn unseasoned and wet wood is irresponsible and not cost effective. Last year during a conversation with our closest neighbor, approx. 900' away, he had no idea we owned an outside furnace much less have be using it for the past eight years. Another neighbor across the street, approx. 950' away, still thinks we burn wood stoves in our home

We strongly urge you to oppose Bill No. 830! This bill will take away my right to use my outside furnace that we lawfully purchased, installed and are lawfully using.

Please let us know what efforts you will be taking to protect our rights from being taken away by this proposed law.

Ray & Chris Paine
295 Valentine Road
Pomfret Center, CT 06250
860-774-2584
rcacres@mindpsring.com

Chris M. Paine

Dear Senator G. G. Skelton :

I am a Connecticut citizen who has chosen to heat my home with an outdoor wood-burning furnace (OWF). Below are many of the good reasons for my own investment in this type of furnace.

- With the price of home heating oil, natural gas and LPG increasing every year, heating with wood is an economical option—those who supply their own wood can save thousands of dollars a year on home, farm and small business heating costs.
- Heating with wood is consistent with the independent practices of Americans from as far back as colonial times. Wood—a renewable resource which is plentiful in Connecticut — expresses our collective desire to become independent from foreign imported oil.
- Heating with an outdoor wood-burning furnace eliminates the risks of fires and carbon monoxide poisoning from using an indoor heating system. Every year hundreds of lives are lost to fires and carbon monoxide poisoning from all types of indoor heating devices. Every year thousands of homes are damaged or destroyed by fires caused by indoor heating devices. Because an outdoor wood-burning furnace is located outside the home, these very real risks are eliminated.
- Heating with wood results in no net increase in global warming gas emissions, while heating with oil and natural gas is a significant source of global warming gas.

The State of Connecticut already regulates OWFs installed prior to and installed after July 8, 2005 in accordance with Public Act 05-227. The Act includes setbacks, chimney height and proper fuel use requirements, along with establishing requirements for "nuisance" OWF use. Central Boiler, Inc., a US manufacturer of OWFs, worked with legislators on this original Act and moreover, in the last 3 legislative sessions has supported legislative efforts to add additional restrictions based upon the US EPA Phase 2 Hydronic Heater Program. This is entirely reasonable and appropriate under the circumstances.

Suddenly and instead of merely including additional restrictions, I have been informed that under a proposed 2011 Connecticut **Bill No. 830**, I will lose all my rights to use my furnace. Apparently the bill is being considered because there are possibly a handful of OWF owners who may have improperly sited and are improperly using their furnaces in violation of current law. Also, I understand that anti-wood burning groups are supporting this bill by making broad false assertions about OWFs, exaggerating numbers of complaints regarding OWFs, and using unscientific studies to support their claims.

I STRONGLY URGE YOU TO OPPOSE BILL NO. 830, which will take away my right to use my OWF that I lawfully purchased, lawfully installed and lawfully use.

Please let me know what efforts you will be taking to protect my rights from being taken away by this proposed law.

Sincerely,

Richard E. Bugger
262 BAXTER ST
Tolland CT 06084

To whom it may concern,

I am appalled at the idea of the ban on outdoor woodstove that has been proposed in the state of Connecticut. My family relies on our Central Boiler for heat in the winter. I have gone to great lengths to make sure that I burn properly and keep smoke to a minimum so as to not upset any neighbors. I can't believe that this is the best resolution the state can come up with. A few boiler owners not be taking consideration of their neighbors but does that mean all should be banned ? If thats the case maybe we should apply that line of thinking to to government officials . One bad gov't official gets caught and all in that class should be banned . That sounds fair doesn't it ?

When is our government going to stop punishing all of the taxpayers for things a few of the taxpayers do? I can't afford to go back to burning oil . Is the State of Connecticut going to subsidize my heating costs or pay to have a new heating system put in? The last year I used oil heat I used 275 gallons a month . If you ban the wood boiler please make the subsidy check out to Douglas Broad and Mail it to my home address of 474 Saw Mill Hill Road Sterling Ct.06377.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Broad
Angry Homeowner

TO START OFF WITH I HAVE ASTHMA AND HAVE HAD IT ALL MY LIFE .I HEAT MY HOME WITH AN OWF FROM NOV THROUGH MARCH AND HAVE HAD NO ILL AFFECTS FROM DOING SO. THERE ARE OTHERS IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD HEATING WITH WOOD STOVES AND FIREPLACES THAT PRODUCE A PROMINENT SMOKE PLUME, MUCH MORE SO THAN MY OWF DOES DURING IT'S START UP .MY OWF REACHES OPERATING TEMPERATURE QUICKLY AT WHICH POINT IT STOPS SMOKING ALL TOGETHER .WHEN IT REACHES 185 IT WILL SHUT DOWN AND START UP AGAIN AT 174 WITH NO SMOKE. I FEED IT FROM 10PM TO 1AM. THERE AFTER NO ADDITIONAL WOOD IS NEEDED ,I WILL GO TO BED. THE OWF HEATS UP 200 GALLONS OF WATER TO THE POINT OF BOILING AND THEN SHUTS DOWN IT WILL DO THIS SEVERAL TIMES AT NIGHT BUILDING UP HOT COALS. FROM 1 AM STRAIGHT THROUGH THE ENTIRE NEXT DAY IT WILL KEEP THE HOUSE WARM WITH OUT FEEDING IT, THE 200 GALLONS OF WATER ARE INSOLATED KEEPING THE WATER VERY HOT. PROPERLY SET UP AND OPERATED THESE UNITS ARE EXTREMELY EFFICIENT AND PRODUCE VERY LITTLE SMOKE .I TAKE PRIDE IN OPERATING MY OWF USING ONLY CLEAN SEASONED WOOD THAT IS KEPT INSIDE SO IT IS ALWAYS DRY .I HAVE SPENT MUCH TIME AND MONEY TO INSURE EVERYTHING NECESSARY WAS DONE PROPERLY AND HAVE THE DOCUMENTATION FROM THE TOWN AND STATE AGENCIES STATING SO. I FEEL THAT PROVEN RESPONSIBLE OWNERS LIKE MYSELF SHOULD NOT BE PUNISHED FOR IRRESPONSIBLE ACTIONS OF OTHERS THAT ARE NOT .

Ronald Cutone

Dear Environmental Committee,

I am a Connecticut citizen who has chosen to heat my home with an outdoor wood-burning furnace (OWF). Below are many of the good reasons for my own investment in this type of furnace.

- With the price of home heating oil, natural gas and LPG increasing every year, heating with wood is an economical option—those who supply their own wood can save thousands of dollars a year on home, farm and small business heating costs.
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Please let me know what efforts you will be taking to protect my rights from being taken away by this proposed law.

Sincerely,

BOB MANCINI

60 KIDNEY HOLLOW RD.

UNION CT. 06076